IN 0 9 2004 PER TRADEMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of

DALE E. HUSTED

Serial No. 10/670,370

Filed September 26, 2003

For

WINDBACK LABYRINTH SEAL THAT ACCOMMODATES A PRESSURE DIFFERENTIAL FOR ROTATING SHAFTS Group Art Unit 3676

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence was deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop DD

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 7+h day on January 2004

Norma J. Payerle, Secretary to Edward G. Greive

<u>1NFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>37 CFR §§ 1.97, 1.98</u>

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant hereby submits the following in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR §1.56.

Information or art known to the Applicant and having an extent of relevance to the present application has been listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto. It includes two United States. The Applicant has employed Form PTO-1449 for the purposes of convenience of the Office and the Examiner.

No representation is made that a specific search has been made, that the information is pertinent to the claimed subject matter, that the information is non-cumulative, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicant does not admit that any of the information he has provided is necessarily prior to his invention but rather that it is information of which he is aware and that he believes should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of his duty of disclosure. Any question that may arise regarding priority of a specific reference shall be resolved during prosecution.

It is the position of the Applicant that none of the art listed herein accomplishes the objects of the present invention. The Applicant believes that the claims of the subject application are patentably distinct over the art of record. In the event the Examiner would care to discuss any of the foregoing more specifically, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

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January 7, 2004

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